

Protection of the Coconut Industry.

72 * MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(a) whether they have pressed, on the Government of India, the necessity of protecting the coconut cultivation on the Malabar coast by considerably increasing the duty on coconut and coconut products imported into India; and

(b) what result has come out of such representation?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) :

(a) Yes.

(b) The matter is still under the consideration of the Government of India.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the Government the date on which the representation was made to the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : In February 1934.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether, after that date, the import duty was still further reduced?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether, in view of that fact, Government made any further representation to the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Yes.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know from the member whether Government received any reply to that representation?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Government have received a reply saying that the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : May I know whether the British Government have informed this Government of that fact, or is it only a presumption by the member?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : I have stated that this Government have been informed of that fact.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : When?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : Some months ago. I can't give the exact date now.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Kartikapalli I*) : Has this Government submitted a memorandum or was it only a request?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*) : We have sent a very detailed letter pointing out the necessity for enhancing the import duty.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Karthikapalli*): May I know whether any rate has been mentioned in the memorandum?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes.

MR. K. SANKARAN (*Karthikapalli I*): May I know the rate?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I am sorry, Sir, I have not got that memorandum with me.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether the Government are aware of the counter-activities of the Ceylon Government for not increasing the import duty on cocoanut?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have seen some reports of it in newspapers.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government are aware that the Ceylon Government sent a deputation to the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I knew of that also from newspapers.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether Government do not think it advisable to send a competent deputation to press on the attention of the Government of India the claims of the Travancore Government?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not at this stage. Government know that the matter is engaging the attention of the Government of India and they do not think it necessary to send a deputation now.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*): May I know whether, after the Government of India come to a decision, it will not be very difficult to alter the decision? Should we not do everything before they actually come to a decision on this matter?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): All the relevant facts have already been placed before the Government of India and their decision will be made only after considering all the facts placed before them by the Travancore Government.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): After learning that the Ceylon Government is carrying on counter-propaganda, have the Travancore Government enquired about the nature and effect of that propaganda?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know the reason?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Newspaper reports cannot always be relied upon.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether there is any agency under the Government to bring to their notice reports in newspapers which affect the Government or the people of this country?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, there is the Publicity Officer.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know whether any action is taken on the reports so submitted?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes, sometimes.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*): May I know why action has not been taken on this matter?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not think it necessary to take any action because they had already placed before the Government of India all the relevant facts.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know whether there is any agency other than the Press to bring to the notice of Government what is taking place in the outside world?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not that I know of.

MR. A. THANU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Rural*): May I know why Government spend such a large amount for obtaining reports from newspapers?

RAO SAHIB/DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government did not think it necessary to take action on newspaper reports, because they had already placed all the relevant facts before the Government of India for their consideration.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether the Government have considered the desirability of having a Travancore representative on the Tariff Board?

PRESIDENT: Do you mean that the Travancore Government should appoint one?

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): Are there any previous instances in which the Travancore Government sent a representative deputation to the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Not that I know of.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): Have the Travancore Government a right to send a deputation?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): That is a constitutional question. I claim notice.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know whether the Government of India have recently raised the tariff value on coconut, though not the duty?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I know that they have lowered the duty.

MR. S. CHATTANATHA KARAYALAR (*Shencotta*): May I know the reason for that?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): I have no information.

MR. EDAVANATT S. PADMANABHA MENON (*Shertala I*): May I know whether, over and above the memorandum submitted to the Government of India, any representation has been made by any officer of the Travancore Durbar?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Sir, this question was considered by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research along with the report submitted to the Government of India by Dr. Patel. At that meeting of the Imperial Council of Agriculture, the Director of Agriculture, Travancore, was also present and took part in the deliberations.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know how long ago that conference was held?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Some months ago.

MR. CHANGANACHERY K. PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Kunnattur cum Pattanapuram*): May I know whether Government have any information about the reason for delaying a decision by the Government of India?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum—Urban*): May I know whether there is any—(*cries of order, order*).

PRESIDENT: Order, Order. More than one series of questions by the same member is not allowed.

MR. P. CHIDAMBARAM PILLAI (*Commerce and Industry, South*): May I know whether Government have considered the question of duty on paddy and rice?

PRESIDENT: We are discussing only the question of cocoanuts now. Paddy and rice are far apart.

MR. K. C. KARUNAKARAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether there is any duty on Siam rice?

PRESIDENT: I said that rice does not arise now.

Grant-in-aid Schools.

73 ***MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil II*): With reference to grant-in-aid schools in the State, will the Government be pleased to state whether they are aware that great hardship is caused to the management on account of the departmental orders in compelling the management to closely adhere to rules regarding accommodation, etc.?

MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): The answer is in the negative.

MR. S. NILAKANTA PILLAI (*Chirayinkil II*): May I know the sanctioned strength of a class?